



BILL RICHARDSON
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
Office of the Secretary
Harold Runnels Building
1190 St. Francis Drive, P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110
Telephone (505) 827-2855
Fax (505) 827-2836



RON CURRY
SECRETARY

DERRITH WATCHMAN-MOORE
DEPUTY SECRETARY

March 5, 2004
Immediate Release

Contact: Jon Goldstein, NMED Communications Dir.
Phone: (505) 827-0314

Environment Department Denies Relocation Application to Radium Springs Gravel Pit

(Santa Fe, NM) — The New Mexico Environment Department's (NMED) Air Quality Bureau (AQB) has denied a relocation application to Smith & Aguirre Construction for a crushing facility to be located in the Faulkner Canyon area of Dona Ana County.

In order to begin operating at the Faulkner Canyon site the company must:

1. Submit an application to NMED to modify its air permit to include the diesel generator. This application must receive adequate public notice. If "significant public interest" is generated by this proposal, a public hearing must be conducted.
2. Conduct dispersion modeling to determine the impact on ambient air quality standards. In order for the application to be approved this modeling must show that all ambient air quality standards will be met and that there will be no exceedences of those standards outside the restricted area of operation.

"There has been significant concern caused by the proposed relocation of this facility," said NMED Secretary Ron Curry. "I hope that this additional public notice and a hearing, if requested, will give the public a better chance to understand what is planned for their community and comment on this proposed new neighbor."

Smith & Aguirre received an air permit in March 1992 to operate a 200-ton per hour crusher at a site near Las Cruces. The AQB recently received an application to relocate this facility to Faulkner Canyon. During review of this application the AQB discovered that Smith & Aguirre intended to power this new facility using an unpermitted diesel powered generator. This generator is a source of air pollutants and was not approved in the facility's 1992 permit. This therefore triggered the application denial.

For further information contact Jon Goldstein, Communications Director, NMED at (505) 827-0314.

###